

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 4, 2014

## More Than 100 Attend Brookhaven's First State of the City Address Mayor Davis: Brookhaven is "very strong"

**Brookhaven, GA –** Declaring the state of the City as "very strong," Brookhaven Mayor J. Max Davis delivered the city's first State of the City address to an audience of approximately 130 Brookhaven residents, elected officials, and business leaders at the Holiday Inn Atlanta – Perimeter on Thursday. Mayor Davis presented a review of city accomplishments from Brookhaven's Community Development, Police, Public Works and Parks departments and outlined broad goals for Brookhaven's future.

"Our laws are better, our public safety is better, our streets are better, our parks are better all this with our property taxes lower," said Davis. "Brookhaven is Better, and the state of our young city is very strong."

Using President Ronald Reagan's famous quotation that "government is not the solution to our problems, government IS the problem," Davis described how he and the City Council have worked together to create a government that can deliver efficient services, lower taxes, and increase public safety while not intruding into people's lives.

July 31st marked the two-year anniversary of the City's referendum to incorporate and the Brookhaven Police Department's first year of service. Davis highlighted the police department as one of the city's successes, and cited it as a one of the promises made by the proincorporation group that advocated for cityhood. Davis said Brookhaven Chief of Police Gary Yandura is the "...best police chief in Georgia..." Because... other police chiefs in Georgia [say] how lucky we are to have him. And because our police get applause as they enter restaurants..."

Davis also said that permit wait times have been reduced from two months to 10 days, and that the city is trying to simplify and reduce the size of its codes. He pointed out the Comprehensive Plan, Buford Highway Improvement Plan, Transportation Plan, and Parks and Recreation Plan the city developing will give "predictability" so that residents will know what to expect of the city.

More community-building events such as the food truck roundups and SoccerFest, traffic relief and the implementation of high-speed internet service through Google fiber are "on track" Davis said.

Along with Mayor Davis, Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Chase Williams, Councilmember Joe Gebbia, and Councilmember Bates Mattison, State Representative Mike Jacobs, and City Manager Marie L. Garrett participated in delivering the State of the City.



(L to R) Councilmember Bates Mattison, Mayor J. Max Davis, Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Chase Williams, Councilmember Joe Gebbia



Mayor Davis and Friends of Brookhaven member, Shannon Cameron





Holiday Inn Atlanta Perimeter provided the venue and dining options

To read the Mayor's speech in its entirety, visit <a href="http://brookhavenga.gov/home/showdocument?id=1295">http://brookhavenga.gov/home/showdocument?id=1295</a>

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